

RIDGE SCHOOL  
RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
325 WEST RIDGEWOOD AVENUE  
RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07450

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June 12, 2018

Dear Parents,

As summer approaches, the faculty and I want to remind you about the importance of reading during the summer vacation. Ridge students have been reading throughout the year in Reading Workshop and at home. We're proud of the progress our students have made as readers, and we'd hate to see any of them suffer from "*summer reading setback.*" Researchers Allington and McGill-Franzen state that "*summer reading setback occurs when students return to school after summer vacation with diminished reading skills, presumably from a lack of adequate reading practice*" [Phi Delta Kappan, Sept. 2003].

**The good news:** "*All students benefit from summer reading. By completing as few as six books during a three-month break, students can maintain their current level. If they read 10 to 20 books, they not only maintain, but in some cases, improve their skills. The key, however, is for students to read about topics of their own interest... Reading needs to be fun*" [suite101.com, Insightful writers. Informed readers. 5/17/09].

We are not assigning a minimum number of books to be read. Our hope is that Ridge students will read regularly throughout the summer, choosing books of interest at a "just-right" level. We hope you will partner with us in encouraging your child(ren) to read consistently throughout the summer months because reading is something that happens 12 months of the year throughout our lives!

Teachers are talking to students about setting summer reading goals. Reading logs will be distributed by current teachers and will be available on the Ridge website. When they come back to school **in September, teachers will collect the reading logs** as a first step in getting to know their students as readers. The teachers and I thank you in advance!

Additionally, I'm pleased to tell you that we will be opening up our library two times this summer to support and encourage reading. On **July 18 and again on August 15 from 10am until noon, students can visit the Ridge library**, borrow books, and enjoy an ice pop! We hope to see you there.

Happy reading!



Jean Schoenlank, Ed.D.  
Principal